world of wealth as well as title, a world of money as well as fashion, a world of greater industry, intelligence, activity, equality, despising the idle dreamings of mere vanity and insane pride, seeking for the truth and reality of things, and not the fictions of life,—is spreading itself over the west and north-west quarters of the town.

This is the direction of the movement, which appears to be embarrassing the contemplations of the authorities. If the movement continues, if those who have had the skill to speculate and profit by it, tempt it with still further advantages, and if the town authorities do not remove some of the unreasonable restrictions which weigh upon commercial industry, will not the result be somewhat injurious to its interests and revenues, and will not the increasing population be disposed to spread itself in the direction most favourable to its interests, its profits, and its health?

If these speculations have some truth in them,—and they are not without a certain gravity,—the stupid old system of the octroi, which the great Revolution destroyed, and Napoleon re-established with all its annoyances and embarrassments to business, will run the risk of being overthrown, not by arguments and theories, but by a material agent, which science and industry have created. The authorities, anxious to preserve their revenues, may extend their barriers to the line of the fortifications, but in doing so they will more than double their expenses, while the manufacturing population may be still free to transport itself beyond that circle.

There is, in short, on the part of the good people of Paris, a disposition to move beyond the barriers, to place itself in a cheaper locality, and out of the reach of the municipal impositions. With the facilities offered for transporting their persons into the centre of the town, by omnibus and railway, they are as quickly at their *bureaux* and counting-houses as if they resided within the *faubourgs*. Why, then, should they not profit by the cheapness of living and lodging, the blessing of purer air and the luxury of a garden; or have two establishments out of town, as well as in the town? Hence, all round the capital, but particularly in those directions most favoured by rapid means of conveyance, buildings are rising by thousands; and yet within the old walls, in excellent situations, exist immense vacant spaces without a house upon them, sufficiently extensive to contain a population as great as that which already peoples the gay and charming city.

PUBLIC PARKS—COPENHAGEN FIELDS.

Sir,—Some years since an inquiry was instituted in the House of Commons, as to the expediency of providing additional parks and places of exercise for the public in the vicinity of the metropolis. The committee to whom the matter was referred stated, in their report, that the then present public places for exercise and recreation were insufficient, and recommended that additional places should be established, indicating, among other places, Copenhagen-fields (for sale at the time) as the most eligible spot for a public park that could be selected. Why this recommendation was not carried into effect I cannot say; but I think that every well-wisher to public health will agree with me, it is a great pity that it was not, and that too little regard has been shewn to the welfare of the inhabitants of this quarter of the metropolis, and to the community at large. Recently walking in the neighbourhood of Copenhagen-fields, I was much grieved to see the alteration in appearance of this once delightful spot. Verdure is now almost destroyed, and clamps of burning bricks occupy the spot where the weary citizen, after the toils of the day in the close counting-house, used to refresh himself with a mouthful of fresh air. In a few months hence it will probably be covered with a parcel of flimsy houses, run up with rubbishing materials; and the poor worn-out clerk and artizan will have to walk an additional mile or two to get a sight of a green field.

For some years past a gradual and systematic plan of encroachment has been carried on against the public enjoyments and convenience. Old footpaths and walks, which have existed from time immemorial, have been shut up. Many of your readers may remember the footpaths across the fields to Hampstead, Kentish-town, and Highgate, which were nearer, and more pleasant in the summer time than by the dusty roads. Perhaps some may recollect that most delightfully rural lane, called Hagbush-lane, which used to run in a northern direction from near Copenhagen House towards Highgate. This lane was an *ancient pack-horse road*, and before the use of vehicles, was the great northern road. This thoroughfare was closed some few years since by a system of gradual encroachment, in the most unjustifiable manner, and all signs of its former existence destroyed.

I do not mean to say that it is possible to undo all the mischief that has been done, or to restore the place to any thing like its former beauty; but a great deal may be accomplished if immediate and energetic measures are taken to secure this spot for the use of the public. If not done *immediately*, it will be too late, and the opportunity thus presented of giving additional beauty and health to the great metropolis *will be for ever lost*. J. C. P.

Clerkenwell, Oct. 25th, 1847.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

The dilapidated old Church of Ewell, Surrey, is being rapidly replaced by the more spacious edifice erected chiefly at the expense of Sir G. L. Glynn, the rector, and at the cost of 6,000*l.*; from the design of Mr. Henry Clutton, architect. Contractors: Mr. Myers, and Mr. W. Killick of Ewell.——The Wesleyan College at Taunton, built from designs by Mr. James Wilson, of Bath, was opened on Tuesday week before last. It is in the Tudor style. The centre is marked by a tower, rising between two gabled compartments. Above the entrance there is an oriel window. On each side of the general centre are three divisions, separated by buttresses, each filled in with a window. The building is capable of accommodating 175 students.——The Yeovil market and town-hall tenders having been lodged and opened, that of Mr. James Davis, of Frome, was accepted, being the lowest, and accompanied with 'testimonials of his ability as a builder.' The cost of the building (exclusive of the site) will be about 3,500*l.*——Steps have been taken for enlarging and improving the assize-hall at Wells, and for building a large consulting-room for solicitors and clients, enlarging the gaol, and building a kitchen and other necessary offices. It is also intended to improve, embellish, and refurnish the residence of the judges. Mr. R. Blakemore, M.P., has contributed very liberally towards the latter object.——The spire of Lydney Church, which is said to be 'one of the finest and nicest proportioned in the kingdom,' and about 220 feet high, is undergoing very considerable repairs, by Mr. Chas. Walker, steeple-builder, Lydney, at a cost of upwards of 180*l.*, borne by Mr. Charles Bathurst, Lydney Park. The spire, says the *Gloucester Journal*, is ornamented with a scroll, forming a cross, and worked from a stone weighing upwards of 12 cwt.——Fretherne Church was consecrated on Thursday week. The cost of the rebuilding, on the old site, has been about 3,000*l.* The edifice, which is in the late decorated style, consists of a nave (40 feet by 18 feet), a chancel (20 feet by 14 feet), with a vestry in the south side (8 feet by 9 feet); a north aisle adjoining the nave (23 feet by 9 feet 6 inches), and a western tower and broach spire. The principal entrance is through the tower on the north. The walls are 2 feet 6 inches thick, lined internally with white freestone ashlar, no plaster being anywhere used in the church. They are faced externally with a brown sandstone. The external dressing and moulded work, as well as the spire, bell turret, and crosses, being all of Bath stone, the contrast of colour between the Bath and brown sandstone is said to have a good effect. The floors are laid with encaustic tiles in pattern. The font is of white freestone, from Painswick, carved and moulded, and raised upon a grey forest-stone step. The roofs are of Memel timber, stained with asphalte. The sittings (which are open) and the pulpit, &c., are of Riga carved oak, dark-stained. The chancel windows, as well as those of the nave and aisle, are all filled with stained-glass, executed by Mr. Rogers, of Worcester. The organ is placed on the floor, under the west window, in the nave. The interior fittings have been executed by Messrs. Potter, Terry, and others, the Patent Carving Company, and Messrs. Minton and Co. The contractors were, Messrs. Ashbee of Kingscote, and Cholerton of Quedgley; and the architect, Mr. Francis Niblett of Gloucester.——The Birmingham Corn Exchange, opened on Thursday week, is 172 feet long, and from 37 to 40 feet wide, including the vestibules. It is of the Doric order of architecture, and is divided into three compartments by ranges of pillars on each side, between which are placed the dealers' stands, which are convertible into tables. The room is lighted by a semicircular glass roof running the whole length of the building, and not liable to be darkened by snow. There are 5,000 feet of glass in it. The room is decorated with statues and fitted up with gas-lights springing from cornucopiæ. Committee-rooms and other conveniences are also provided. The building was erected by Mr. S. Briggs, under the superintendence of Mr. Heming, the architect.——Mr. W. W. Weston, the munificent improver of the church of Stratford-on-Avon, has ordered the restoration of the chancel of Haselor church, of which he is the impropriator. The works will be superintended by Mr. Henry Saunders, of Stratford, architect. The old and curiously interlaced oak timbers of the roof, says the *Worcester Journal*, have already been laid open, and the east window restored in stained glass. Two arches, curiously painted, have been exposed, and other improvements effected.——The dilapidated old church of Brockworth, a few miles from the city of Gloucester, has been in course of restoration within the last two years. Much it is said has been done, and 186 sittings made free. The chancel, by the liberality of Sir John W. Guise (the lay rector), has undergone a thorough and perfect repair. Stained glass, by Wailes, for the east window, has been presented by Mr. William Davies, of Wellclose. There is a deficiency of 268*l.* 10*s.* however in the ways and means of completing the repairs. Reopening fixed for 2nd inst. Mr. Jacques, of Gloucester, is the architect.——Three years since a few students of Queen's College, Cambridge, requested permission of the authorities to contribute towards the restoration or rather re-exposure of the roof of the chapel. The restoration has been effected, and the roof now appears panelled in oak, and richly decorated with painting and gilding. At the same time Mr. R. Moon, M.A., restored the pitched timber roof of the hall, and added a louvre and bell turret. A new east window of Caen stone has also been added to the chapel, the stained glass by Mr. Barnett, of York. Much, however, remains to be done both to the chapel and hall. A tasteful restoration of the windows and wainscoting, it is thought, would render the hall the most architecturally correct in the university; and we trust, says the *Cambridge Chronicle*, that all the members of the college will unite their efforts to restore these edifices.——The church of Brothertoft, near Boston, has been restored and beautified in the Gothic style at the expense of Mr. Thomas Gee. The reconstruction has been effected by Mr. Booth, of Boston, under the supervision of Mr. S. Lewin, at an expense of upwards of 900*l.* The most effective ornaments of the building, says the *Lincolnshire Times*, are the carved pulpit and altar-screen by Mr. J. W. Carter, of Boston, lately foreman to Mr. Booth.——St. Paul's Church, Hull, was consecrated on Wednesday week. The plan of this church, says the *Hull Packet*, consists of chancel, nave with aisles, vestry, and tower to be crowned with a lofty spire. The style is early English, with lancet windows. The west end has an arcade of five arches, two pierced. The roofs are of lofty pitch, covered with Dampier's patent dark-gray tiles, which have a pleasing appearance. The walls are of rough stone, from Brough; with quoins, &c., of Caen stone. In the interior the nave is divided from its aisles by an arcade of six arches on either side, and mainly depends for effect on its roof, which is open to the rafters, and supported by arched braces on stone corbels. The seats are all alike, low and open. The chancel (40 feet long) is separated from the nave by a moulded arch, and rises by steps eastward to the altar. The

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